General Assembly

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Agenda item 47

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/59/L.9 and Add.1)*]

59/10. Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 58/5 of 3 November 2003 and its decision to proclaim 2005 the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace,

Considering the role of sport and physical education as a means to promote education, health, development and peace,

Acknowledging the major role of the United Nations, its funds and programmes and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other specialized agencies, in promoting human development through sport and physical education, through its country programmes,

Noting that sport and physical education in many countries face increasing marginalization within education systems even though they are a major tool not only for health and physical development but also for acquiring values necessary for social cohesion and intercultural dialogue,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child[1] and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[2] stressing that education shall be directed to the development of children's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential,

Acknowledging with concern the dangers faced by sportsmen and sportswomen, in particular young athletes, including child labour, violence, doping, early specialization, over-training and exploitative forms of commercialization, as well as less visible threats and deprivations, such as the premature severance of family bonds and the loss of sporting, social and cultural ties,

Recognizing the need for greater coordination of efforts at the international level to facilitate a more effective fight against doping, and noting in this regard the

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[2] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

Anti-Doping Convention established by the Council of Europe,[3] the Copenhagen Declaration on Anti-doping in Sport, adopted during the World Conference on Doping in Sport, held from 3 to 5 March 2003, and any other relevant international instrument,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Sport for peace and development: International Year of Sport and Physical Education";[4]

2. *Decides* to launch, on 5 November 2004, the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, as a means to promote education, health, development and peace;

3. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations, its funds and programmes, the specialized agencies, where appropriate, and sport-related institutions to organize events to underline their commitment and to seek the assistance of sports personalities in this regard;

4. *Also invites* Governments, the United Nations, its funds and programmes, the specialized agencies, where appropriate, and sport-related institutions:

(*a*) To promote the role of sport and physical education for all when furthering their development programmes and policies, to advance health awareness, the spirit of achievement and cultural bridging and to entrench collective values;

(*b*) To include sport and physical education as a tool to contribute towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[5] and the broader aims of development and peace;

(*c*) To work collectively so that sport and physical education can present opportunities for solidarity and cooperation in order to promote a culture of peace and social and gender equality and to advocate dialogue and harmony;

(*d*) To recognize the contribution of sport and physical education towards economic and social development and to encourage the building and restoration of sports infrastructures;

(*e*) To further promote sport and physical education, on the basis of locally assessed needs, as a tool for health, education, social and cultural development and environmental sustainability;

(*f*) To strengthen cooperation and partnership between all actors, including family, school, clubs/leagues, local communities, youth sports associations and decision makers as well as the public and private sectors, in order to ensure complementarities and to make sport and physical education available to everyone;

(*g*) To ensure that young talents can develop their athletic potential without any threat to their safety and physical and moral integrity;

5. *Encourages* Governments, international sports bodies and sport-related organizations to elaborate and implement partnership initiatives and development projects compatible with the education provided at all levels of schooling to help to achieve the Millennium Development Goals;

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[3] Council of Europe, *European Treaty Series*, No. 135.

[4] A/59/268 and Add.1.

[5] See resolution 55/2.

6. *Invites* Governments and international sports bodies to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations to develop strategic partnerships with the range of stakeholders involved in sport, including sports organizations, sports associations and the private sector, to assist in the implementation of sport for development programmes;

8. *Encourages* Governments and the United Nations system to seek new and innovative ways to use sport for communication and social mobilization, particularly at the national, regional and local levels, engaging civil society through active participation and ensuring that target audiences are reached;

9. *Acknowledges* that the Olympic Games contribute to understanding between peoples and civilizations, and welcomes in this regard the contribution of the 2004 Olympic Games organized in Athens;

10. *Stresses* the need for all parties to cooperate closely with international sports bodies to elaborate a "code of good practice";

11. *Invites* Governments to accelerate the elaboration of an international anti-doping convention in all sports activities, and requests the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in cooperation with other relevant international and regional organizations, to coordinate the elaboration of such a convention;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of the present resolution and on the events organized at the national, regional and international levels to celebrate the year 2005, under the item entitled "International Year of Sport and Physical Education".

42nd plenary meeting
27 October 2004